

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/051,369

Examiner

Karabi Guharay

Applicant(s)

NAKATA, YUTAKA

Art Unit

2879

bm

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Application, filed on 22 January, 2002.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-32.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 22 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 03/02 & 05/02
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

In the title, pursuant to MPEP § 606.01, the title has been changed as follows:

---- LAMP DEVICE FOR A VEHICLE HAVING A FREE CURVED SURFACE
AND A LENS WITHOUT A PRISM-----.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-32 are allowed over the prior art of record.

Examiner's Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reason for allowance:

Regarding claims 1, the prior art of record neither shows nor suggests a combination of limitations set forth in claims 1, particularly the limitation of a reflecting surface, which is a free curved surface and a lens without a prism wherein the lens has a concave shape in vertical cross section and a flat shape in transverse cross section.

Regarding claim 3, the prior art of record neither shows nor suggests a combination of limitations set forth in claim 3, particularly the limitation of a reflecting surface, which is a free curved surface and a lens without a prism wherein the lens has a flat shape in vertical cross section and a concave shape in transverse cross section.

Regarding claim 5, the prior art of record neither shows nor suggests a combination of limitations set forth in claim 5, particularly the limitation of a reflecting surface, which is a free curved surface and a lens without a prism wherein the lens has a convex shape in vertical cross section and a flat shape in transverse cross section.

Regarding claim 7, the prior art of record neither shows nor suggests a combination of limitations set forth in claim 7, particularly the limitation of a reflecting

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surface, which is a free curved surface and a lens without a prism wherein the lens has a flat shape in vertical cross section and a convex shape in transverse cross section.

Claims 2, 4, 6, and 8-32 are allowed being dependent on allowed base claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Other Prior Art Cited

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure : Bertling et al. (US 5440456); Albou (US 6123440); Ra (US 6079854); Nakata (US 6527425); Taksukawa et al. (US 5432685); Soskind et al. (US 5897196).

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Karabi Guharay whose telephone number is (571) 272-2452. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimeshkumar D. Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization is (703) 308-7382.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

K. Guharay
Karabi Guharay
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2879

Ashok Patel
ASHOK PATEL
PRIMARY EXAMINER